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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
50 F Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001
(202) 639-2555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, April 17, 1986 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended April 12 totaled an estimated 17.4 billion ton-miles, 3.2 percent above the corresponding week of 1985, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 15 weeks of 1986 was an estimated 254.7 billion ton-miles, up 0.4 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended April 12 totaled 386,683, up 1.0 percent from last year, and 7.5 percent over the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were up 0.6 percent in the East, and 3.3 percent in the West, but down 2.3 percent in the South.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 12 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. However, metallic ores increased by 2,396 cars (18.1 percent), loadings of motor vehicles and equipment were up by 1,663 cars (7.9 percent) and loadings of chemicals and allied products showed a gain of 1,435 cars (5.4 percent). Fifteen of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended April 5 totaled 95,913 trailers and/or containers, 13.6 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 14 weeks of the year was 1,318,714 trailers and/or containers, up 12.7 percent from 1985.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 4/12/86:

	Loadings in Week ended April 12, 1986		Change from Corresponding Week 1985			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	17,725	D	3,345	15.9	D	1,488	7.7
Other farm products	2,824	D	670	19.2	I	3	0.1
Metallic ores	15,627	I	2,396	18.1	I	2,541	19.4
Coal	115,248	D	3,060	2.6	I	15,196	15.2
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	14,351	I	837	6.2	I	892	6.6
Nonmetallic minerals	9,655	D	1,306	11.9	I	980	11.3
Grain mill products	10,175	D	75	0.7	D	25	0.2
Food and kindred products	10,981	D	87	0.8	I	187	1.7
Primary forest products	9,904	D	2,042	17.1	D	338	3.3
Lumber and wood products except furniture	8,098	I	716	9.7	D	31	0.4
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,367	D	1,654	11.8	D	480	3.7
Chemicals and allied products	27,867	I	1,435	5.4	I	97	0.3
Petroleum products	4,719	I	19	0.4	I	290	6.5
Stone, clay and glass products	10,536	D	944	8.2	I	205	2.0
Coke	5,084	D	180	3.4	I	237	4.9
Metals and products	9,046	I	190	2.1	D	294	3.1
Motor vehicles and equipment	22,807	I	1,663	7.9	I	4,711	26.0
Waste and scrap materials	8,806	D	435	4.7	I	681	8.4
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	5,394	D	674	11.1	I	63	1.2
All other carloads	65,344	I	11,078	20.4	I	3,381	5.5
LCL traffic	125	I	6	5.0	I	8	6.8
Total Cars Loaded	386,683	I	3,868	1.0	I	26,816	7.5
Corresponding week of 1985	382,815						

	1986	1985	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (15 weeks)	5,554,772	5,535,416	I 0.3
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
14 Weeks ended April 5	237.3	236.7	I 0.2
Week ended April 12	17.4	16.9	I 3.2
15 weeks cumulative	254.7	253.6	I 0.4

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